

unemployment does continue to rise in the world. The ILO estimates that the number of unemployed grew by 20 million since the beginning of 2001 to reach about 180 million at the end of 2002. In India, number of unemployed on usual status basis has gone up from around 7.5 million in 1993-94 to 9.0 million in 1999-2000.

(c) and (d) Government's strategy to tackle the problem of unemployment in the country during the Tenth Plan period includes the following.

- 8% growth with business as usual will contribute around 3 crore employment opportunities.
- Special employment generation programmes will yield 2 crore employment opportunities.
- Special emphasis on agriculture, irrigation, agro-forestry, small and medium enterprises, information communication technology, tourism and other services.

New Schemes for Labour Welfare

772. SHRI AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of schemes and programmes started during the last three years and current year for the welfare and development of labourers in the country;

(b) the number of labourers benefited from the above schemes during the above period in the country as a whole and in each State/UT;

(c) whether Government proposes to start new schemes and programmes for labourers' welfare during the years 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07; and

(d) the manner in which these schemes would be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRASEKHAR RAO): (a) and (b) The Government has been implementing schemes for the welfare of the labourers in the country. The Government has constituted Welfare Funds for specific groups of unorganised sector workers i.e. beedi workers, cine workers and certain non-coal mine workers to provide welfare schemes such as health care,

housing, group insurance, education and recreation. These schemes are in addition to the poverty alleviation/employment generation schemes being implemented by the Government. Further, the Janshree Bima Yojana providing for insurance cover to the people living below and marginally above the poverty line is also in operation. The Government launched Krishi Shramik Samajik Suraksha Yojana-2001 in July 2001 through Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) for agricultural workers. The scheme envisaged the benefit of life-cum-accident insurance, money back, superannuation benefits and pension. As reported by LIC, 2,53,168 agricultural workers have been registered upto 31.03.2003. The State-wise details are given in the enclosed Statement-I (See below). The Government also launched the Unorganised Sector Workers' Social Security Scheme, 2004 on pilot basis in 50 districts of the country. The benefits included old age pension, medical insurance and personal accident insurance cover. About 3500 unorganised workers have been covered under the scheme. The details are given in the enclosed Statement-II (See below).

(c) and(d) The welfare of the labourers is on the high priority of the Government and formulation and implementation of the schemes/programmes is a continuous process.

Statement-I

List of district covered under Krishi Sramik Samajik Suraksha Yojana.

(As per the latest statement submitted by LIC)

S.No.	States/U.Ts.	No. of District selected	Name of the District	No. of workers covered till 31.10.03
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4	Guntur	—
			East Godavari	13370
			West Godavari	9004
			Krishna	103
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1	East Siang	120
3.	Assam	1	Nagaon	5114
4.	Bihar	3	Madhepura	110
			Gaya	1969
			Saharsa	2130

S.No.	States/U.Ts.	No. of District selected	Name of the District	No. of workers covered till 31.10.03
5.	Chhattisgarh	2	Raipur	6623
			Bilaspur	5436
6.	Gujarat	2	Kheda	7069
			Surat	8288
7.	Haryana	1	Hissar	—
8.	Himachal Pradesh	1	Kangara	—
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	1	Jammu	2499
10.	Jharkhand	2	Palamau	700
			Singhbhum West	2021
11.	Karnataka	2	Dharward	700
			Raichur	181
12.	Kerala	1	Palakkad	11120
13.	Madhya Pradesh	3	West Nimar	6843
			Jabal Pur	13978
			Ujjain	5840
14.	Maharashtra	4	Jalgaon	12590
			Yavatmal	1829
			Solapur	20000
			Dhule	1160
15.	Manipur	1	Imphal	—
16.	Meghalaya	1	East Khasi Hills	600
17.	Nagaland	1	Kohima	185
18.	Orissa	2	Koraput	9584
			Samabalpur	13371
19.	Punjab	1	Amritsar	1699
20.	Rajasthan	2	Sriganganagar	5033
			Udaipur	13693
21.	Sikkim	1	East Sikkim	4314
22.	Tamil Nadu	4	Cuddalore	9579
			Thanjavur	3252
			Trichirappalli	3092
			Madurai	12696
23.	Tripura	1	West Tripura	26838

S.No.	States/U.Ts.	No. of District selected	Name of the District	No. of workers covered till 31.10.03
24.	Uttar Pradesh	2	Allahabad Badaun	6311 1249
25.	Uttaranchal	2	Nainital Dehradun	1073 145
26.	West Bengal	2	Madinipur Bardhawan	802 571
27.	Goa	1	North Goa	284
28.	Mizoram	1	Aizwal	—
TOTAL		50		2,53,168

Statement-II**Number of Workers covered under Unorganised Sector Workers Social Security Scheme-2004**

S.No.	States	Districts	Members enrolled
1.	Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka	Hyderabad, Nellore, Chittoor, Bangalore, Mangalore	31
2.	Bihar, Orissa	Patna, Kishan Ganj, Ranchi, Hazaribagh, Bhubaneswar, Kalahandi	25
3.	Gujarat	Ahmedabad, Surat, Daman	30
4.	Maharashtra, Goa	Mumbai, Pune, Nagpur, Goa	35
5.	Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh	Raipur, Bhopal, Indore	21
6.	Delhi, Haryana	Delhi, Faridabad	2341
7.	Punjab, J&K, Himachal Pradesh	Shimla, Jammu, Srinagar, Gurdaspur, Chandigarh	17
8.	Rajasthan	Jaipur, Barmer, Jhalawar	25

S.No.	States	Districts	Members enrolled
9.	Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Pondicherry	Thiruvananthapuram, Chennai, Coimbatore, Theni, Pondicherry	50
10.	Uttar Pradesh, Uttaranchal	Lucknow, Allahabad, Varanasi, Dehradun	857
11.	West Bengal, North East Region	Itanagar, Guwahati, Imphal, Shillong, Aizwal, Kohima, Gangtok, Agartala, Kolkata, Durgapur	19
TOTAL:			3451

Mining operations in Tamil Nadu

773. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to allow private players including foreign companies in the field of mining in the country;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government have allowed mining operations in some States as well;

(c) if so, the names of the States in which these mining operations are likely to be on a major level;

(d) whether mining operations are likely to be allowed in Tamil Nadu also; and

(e) if so, whether the State has been consulted on the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR DASARI NARAYANA RAO): (a) As per the National Mineral Policy (NMP), 1993, the non-fuel and non-atomic mineral sector has been thrown open for private investment including Foreign Direct Investment.

(b) to (e) For non-fuel and non-atomic minerals, the above mentioned National Mineral Policy is equally applicable to all States including Tamil Nadu in the country. All mineral concessions are granted by the State Governments including Tamil Nadu under the Mines and Minerals (Development & Regulation) Act, 1957 and Rules made thereunder. Only